

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forecasting the sale of goods, comprising:
 - a) receiving data from a plurality of independent point of sale outlets of a supply chain utilizing a network, the data ~~relating to~~ comprising an amount of goods sold by the point of sale outlets, with the goods not being sold on the network;
 - b) checking the data for errors made by the independent point of sale outlets;
 - c) identifying the errors made by the independent point of sale outlets such as at least one selected from the group consisting of point of sale set-up error, point of sale entry error, back office error, polling error, and datum menu-item mapping error and logging the errors in a log; and
 - d) correcting the data using the identification;
 - e) transmitting the log to the independent point of sale outlets utilizing the network;
 - f) receiving amounts of products distributed to the respective independent point of sale outlets;
 - g) calculating in a management supply chain computer an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets;
 - h) tracking the data relating to the sale of goods against forecasted sales on a periodic basis; and
 - i) generating an alert if a deviation between the data and the forecasted sales exceeds a threshold.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data is checked for errors in real-time.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the log is transmitted to a supply chain manager utilizing the network.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for forecasting the sale of goods, comprising: an electronic storage; and

a set of processors of an independent supply chain manager, the set of processors including among them the following logic elements:

a) logic for receiving data from a plurality of independent point of sale outlets of a supply chain utilizing a network, the data ~~relating to~~ comprising an amount of goods sold by the point of sale outlets, with the goods not being sold on the network;

b) logic for checking the data for errors made by the independent point of sale outlets;

c) logic for identifying the errors made by the independent point of sale outlets such as at least one selected from the group consisting of point of sale set-up error, point of sale entry error, back office error, polling error, and datum menu-item mapping error and logging the errors in a log; and

d) logic for correcting the data using the identification;

e) logic for transmitting the log to the independent point of sale outlets utilizing the network;

f) logic for receiving amounts of products distributed to the respective independent point of sale outlets;

g) logic for calculating an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets;

h) logic for tracking the data relating to the sale of goods against forecasted sales on a periodic basis; and

i. logic for generating an alert if a deviation between the data and the forecasted sales exceeds a threshold.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

9. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the data is checked for errors in real-time.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the log is transmitted to a supply chain manager utilizing the network.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for forecasting the sale of goods, comprising:

a set of computer usable media having computer readable program code embodied therein to be executed by a computer and including among them the following computer readable program code

a) computer code for receiving data from a plurality of independent point of sale outlets of a supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to comprising an amount of goods sold by the point of sale outlets, with the goods not being sold on the network;

b) computer code for checking the data for errors made by the independent point of sale outlets;

c) computer code for identifying the errors made by the independent point of sale outlets such as at least one selected from the group consisting of point of sale set-up error, point of sale entry error, back office error, polling error, and datum menu-item mapping error and logging the errors in a log; and

d) computer code for correcting the data using the identification;

e) computer code for transmitting the log to the independent point of sale outlets utilizing the network;

- f) computer code for receiving amounts of products distributed to the respective independent point of sale outlets;
- g) computer code for calculating an actual good cost per point of sale outlet and an ideal good cost and making accessible to the respective independent point of sale outlets;
- h) computer code for tracking the data relating to the sale of goods against forecasted sales on a periodic basis; and
- i) computer code for generating an alert if a deviation between the data and the forecasted sales exceeds a threshold.

14. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the Internet.

15. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data is checked for errors in real-time.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Original) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the log is transmitted to a supply chain manager utilizing the network.